978 264 9119

T-385 P.004/017

NOV 1 0 2003

IN THE UNITED STATES PATENT AND TRADEMARK OFFICE

Applicant(s): Cain

Application No.: 09/453340

Filed: 12/02/1999

Title: Priority Forwarding in a Communication System

Attorney Docket No.: 2204/179 120-160

Assistant Commissioner for Patents

Examiner: Wilson

Group Art Unit: 2661

OFFICIAL

Entered via port

Washington, D.C. 20231

RESPONSE PURSUANT 37 C.F.R. §1.116(a)

Dear Sir.

In response to the final Office Action of August 8, 2003, entry of the below response is respectfully requested in order to place this application in better form for appeal.

REMARKS

Reconsideration and further examination is respectfully requested.

Request for Withdrawal of Finality of Rejection

Applicants note that there are several procedural requirements for rejections of claims that the Examiner has not met with the rejections that have so far been put forth in this application. For at least this reason, Applicants request withdrawal of the finality of this office action, and proper reconsideration of this case.

Rejections under 35 U.S.C. §112, 2nd paragraph